



Presented by Brookshire Brothers

NEWS RELEASE

nh 5-20-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2008

For More Information Contact:

Kelly Daniel, 936-560-5533

Rockin at the Texas Blueberry Festival

By Narissa Harris, Chamber intern

NACOGDOCHES - The 19th annual Texas Blueberry Festival, presented by Brookshire Brothers, on Saturday, June 14, in downtown Nacogdoches will feature three separate stages showcasing more than 20 different acts of live entertainment. From 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. performers will provide a full day of noteworthy fun.

From the Plaza Principal Stage, located at Pilar and Pecan streets on the south end of the town square, expect to hear the sounds of folk, gospel, country, Americana and rock n' roll. There will be bands and entertainers with all kinds of talents and from different genres of music.

Jon Hall will kick off the morning at the Plaza Principal stage and will be followed by a variety of entertainers, which will include Justin Petree and the Lost Boys; The Evergreens; Sonic Shade; Brian Harkness; Cindy Grayson; and The Hipshakers.

James Hutchinson of the Hipshakers is excited about their return to the Texas Blueberry Festival. The Hipshakers are a blues/rock band whose sound can be compared to "Stevie Ray Vaughan and ZZ Top," says Hutchinson.

Band members from The Hipshakers are from across the country, but Hutchinson, a Nacogdoches native, is looking forward to two of his favorite attractions at the festival, seeing old friends and the festival food.

“I always love the Bar-B-Que, and eating all the blueberries I can stand,” Hutchinson said.

An eclectic group of talent will perform on the Main Street Stage located at the corner of Mound and Main streets. Bands and entertainers performing on the Main Street Stage include Americana singer J.P. Calloway; Kyle Worsham; Ending Entropy; Blake Russell; Colt Pope; Anthony Riley and HillBilly Delux; J.R. Byrd Band; and Los Gallos.

After enjoying some of the festival’s famous blueberry pancakes, roll on down to Festival Park, just south of downtown, and enjoy music of James Kerss and later in the afternoon, Alyssa Fuller. Stop by to see the tumbling and gymnastics of the Boys and Girls Club. Members are a part of the East Texas Twisters Team and will be exhibiting their skills.

Last but certainly not least, don’t forget to check out the time favored, Blue Pies Smiling at Me Pie Eating Contest. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. pie eating contest will run on the hour and half hour in Festival Plaza.

“We’re happy about the new location for the pie eating contest,” said Debra Young, Food and Frolic festival organizer. “Registration will take place before each contest, and we’ll have separate contests for adults and twelve-years and under going on. Feel free to come down to the Festival Plaza Stage and show off your pie eating skills.”

Entertainment schedules are posted online. Please visit TexasBlueberryFestival.com for all three stage schedules and blueberry festival event information, or call the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce at 936-560-5533. Schedule and performers are subject to change.

The Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce, in coordination with numerous sponsors, produces the Texas Blueberry Festival. The 2008 Blue Sapphire sponsor is Brookshire Brothers.

###

Photo outlines:

Buffalograss_band_DSC_1707.JPG

The Buffalograss band members from left, Glenn Burt, John Boyd and Morgan Boyd, will entertain crowds from Festival Plaza Stage during the Texas Blueberry Festival on

Saturday, June 14. Visit www.TexasBlueberryFestival.com for event information including stage schedules.

Photo by Bruce R. Partain.

SIDEBAR

Fashion forecast: wear blueberry

Show that blueberry spirit by wearing the official 2008 Texas Blueberry Festival gear. The festival T-shirt comes in two cool and comfortable colors this year. Be the first to sport serene green or handsome tan for 2008 with yummy blueberries on the front.

Sizes range from youth through adult X-Lg, \$15 and adult XX-Lg and XXX-Large, \$18.

The popular red baseball cap with the official festival logo is available again this year, \$18. In addition, another option for headwear is the Texas Blueberry Festival bucket hat that is a khaki-color hat that the young, the old and the in-between will all enjoy, \$15.

Beat the heat this year with the Blueberry Neck Cooler. A blue bandana that when soaked in water and tied around the neck, will create a lasting cooling sensation for only \$5. This item is reusable, and makes a cool impression on warm weather days.

Texas Blueberry Festival Posters are also available, \$10. Posters match the festival T-shirts and are 18-inches by 24-inches. Posters are a great addition to display in any space, home and office.

Get all these items at the Chamber office, 2516 North St. T-shirts are available at the Convention and Visitors Bureau located downtown, too.

###

Photo outline:

Chamber intern Narissa Harris models the official 2008 Texas Blueberry Festival t-shirt in serene green and holds the commemorative event poster. Festival t-shirts, the poster, caps and more are available now at the Nacogdoches County Chamber at 2516 North Street.